

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 167599

FOR WORTZEL FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. MARKOVIC VISIT. (1) AS A FOLLOW-UP TO YOUR CONVERSATION WITH SAM, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT WE ARE ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH ON THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING THIS VISIT ON THE HIGHEST LEVEL. I DON'T KNOW WHERE BELOVSKI GOT HIS INFORMATION ABOUT ROSTENKOWSKI BEING HOST IN WASHINGTON, BUT HE'S SIMPLY WRONG. WE HAVE ASKED ABBRUZZEZE TO MAKE SURE THAT O'NEILL PERSONALLY (BOTH IN NAME AND IN FACT) HOSTS THE HOUSE LUNCHEON. HE SEEMS CONFIDENT THIS WILL BE DONE, BUT IF THERE ARE ANY SIGNS OF SLIPPAGE WE WILL GO AROUND ABBRUZZEZE. AS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE MEETINGS, WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT O'NEILL WROTE THE PRESIDENT URGING HIM TO SEE MARKOVIC, AND WE WILL FOLLOW UP OUR RECOMMENDATION (TO HAVE THE VICE PRESIDENT GIVE A BREAKFAST AND FOR THE PRESIDENT TO DROP IN) WITH A CONFIDENTIAL

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CALL TO CLIFT (ON HIS RETURN FROM ISRAEL, ETC.) TO SEE IF IT IS ON TRACK. IT WOULD NOT HURT, HOWEVER, TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF A BRIEF AND PUNCHY CABLE TO VEST ASKING THAT HE TRY TO MAKE SURE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S (AND IF AT ALL POSSIBLE THE PRESIDENT'S) PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM.

2. MARKOVIC VISIT (2). YUGOSLAV EMBASSY REPORTED LATE THIS AFTERNOON THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF PROGRAM SCHEDULE (WASHINGTON, SF, CHICAGO) BUT NOTHING ON NUMBERS OR NAMES OF DELEGATION. THEY ALSO WERE TOLD THAT DELEGATION WOULD BE ARRIVING SATURDAY (VICE SUNDAY) IN NEW YORK BY SPECIAL PLANE, AND WOULD HAVE A PRIVATE PROGRAM SATURDAY WITH OFFICIAL ARRIVAL STILL SET FOR SUNDAY AT 6 PM IN WASHINGTON.

3. MARKOVIC VISIT (3). WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY ABBRUZZEZE THAT MAYOR BILANDIC HAS INDICATED HE MIGHT NOT BE IN CHICAGO WHEN MARKOVIC DELEGATION IS THERE. WE HAVE NOT MENTIONED THIS TO EMBASSY. DO YOU SEE ANY DANGER OF ADVERSE REACTION BY YUGOSLAWS TO WHAT MAY WELL BE CONSTRUED AS (AND MAY WELL BE) BILANDIC DECISION NOT TO GET IN TROUBLE WITH LOCAL ETHNIC COMMUNITY? ABBRUZZEZE HAD ALREADY BEEN THINKING OF EXPLORING A MINNEAPOLIS STOP IN LIEU OF CHICAGO, BEFORE CONFIRMATION OF PROGRAM CAME IN. WE'LL KEEP YOU INFORMED.

4. YOUNG VISIT. WE HAVE PASSED ON TO USUN EMBASSY'S INTEREST IN SOME FURTHER GUIDANCE ON YOUNG'S INTEREST IN BELGRADE. (THIS VISIT IS VERY MUCH OUT OF IO'S HANDS.) USUN HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE SOME MORE DETAIL, BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHEN THIS WILL BE DONE. YOUNG HIMSELF IS NOW ON WAY TO GENEVA, WHERE HE WILL BE UNTIL AROUND JULY 15. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE DID NOT WANT ANY BRIEFING BOOK FOR BELGRADE, BUT HIS STAFF SUGGESTED THAT ANY IMPORTANT ISSUES HE SHOULD BE AWARE OF BE CABLED TO GENEVA BEFORE HE LEAVES. IO WILL PREPARE A CABLE ON SOME UNGA AND NAM ISSUES, BUT YOU MIGHT CONSIDER A "SELF-GENERATED" CABLE TO YOUNG ON HOW YUGOSLAWS VIEW HIS VISIT AND GOY PERSPECTIVE ON UNGA ISSUES.

5. PERSONNEL ITEM - WE WERE SORRY TO RECEIVE YOUR WORD (O-I BELGRADE 4678) THAT DAVID EVANS WILL NOT EXTEND BEYOND HIS TWO-YEAR ASSIGNMENT. HOWEVER, PERSONNEL WAS GLAD TO HAVE THIS NEWS SINCE THEY WILL NOW FIRM UP BILL WHITMAN'S ASSIGNMENT TO BELGRADE FOR THE SUMMER OF 1979. IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO GRAB BILL; PER IS PROCESSING HIS PAPERS NOW AND ASSURES US THAT ALL IS WELL. VANCE

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